

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of September 27, 2006 is respectfully requested.

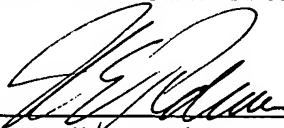
In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 17, 19, 22 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. These claims have now been so-rewritten. Further, the remaining claims have been canceled. Accordingly, all claims now present in this application should be in condition for allowance.

This should not be taken as any acquiescence to the positions taken by the Examiner in the final Office Action. Applicants reserve their right to pursue claims given up in this application in further continuation applications.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiyoshi TATSUHARA et al.

By: 

Nils E. Pedersen
Registration No. 33,145
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krp
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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